

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 AID-20 EB-11 CIEP-02 TRSE-00

STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 DRC-01 /181 W
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P R 081832Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8622

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA. 2., LINE 14 & PARA. 3 LAST
LINE)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, FR, GW

SUBJECT: PROSPECTS FOR EC SUMMIT MEETINGS; FRG VIEWS

REF: (A) BONN 15958, (B) BONN 15856

BEGIN SUMMARY: CHANCELLOR BRANDT INTENDS TO RESPOND
POSITIVELY TO POMPIDOU'S PROPOSAL FOR REGULAR EC SUMMIT
MEETINGS AND TO JORGENSEN'S INVITATION TO A MID-DEC
SUMMIT OF THE NINE. THE GERMANS WANT THE SUBJECT
MATTER OF THE SUMMITS TO COVER THE WHOLE RANGE OF EC
ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, INTERNAL AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN
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ORDER TO ASSURE A BALANCED DEVELOPMENT. THEY ALSO WANT

FOREIGN MINISTERS TO ATTEND AND THE EC COMMISSION TO BE REPRESENTED. WHILE PERCEIVING CERTAIN PROBLEMS IN SUCH REGULAR SUMMIT MEETINGS, OUR SOURCES SAY BONN BELIEVES SUCH A SUMMIT DECISION MAKING BODY IS ESSENTIAL AT THIS TIME GIVEN PRIORITY FRG ACCORDS TO EUROPEAN UNIFICATION. END SUMMARY

1. GENERAL. FOR THE LAST SEVERAL DAYS THE FONOFF HAS BEEN ACCORDING INTENSIVE ATTENTION TO POMPIDOU'S LETTER CALLING FOR EC SUMMIT MEETINGS AND TO DANISH PRIME MINISTER JORGENSEN'S INVITATION, SENT TO THE EC-9 HEADS OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT, TO MEET DEC 15-16 IN COPENHAGEN. THE GERMANS HAVE HAD WORKING LEVEL CONTACTS WITH THE FRENCH ON THIS SUBJECT AND THE MATTER WAS DISCUSSED ON THE MARGINS OF THE NOV 5-6 POLITICAL DIRECTOR'S AND FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETINGS IN BRUSSELS. RELIABLE FONOFF SOURCES TOLD EMBOFF THAT THE FRG HAS DECIDED TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO POMPIDOU'S SUGGESTION AND TO JORGENSEN'S INVITATION. CHANCELLOR BRANDT INTENDS TO WRITE TO BOTH POMPIDOU AND JORGENSEN IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS ACCEPTING THE INVITATION TO A MID-DEC EC SUMMIT--THE DATES NOW APPEAR TO BE DEC 14-15 --AND TO SPELL OUT GERMAN VIEW ON CERTAIN ASPECTS OF SUCH SUMMITRY. OUR SOURCES COMMENTED IN PARTICULAR ON THREE POINTS TO WHICH BONN HAD ACCORDED CAREFUL ATTENTION --REGULARITY, SUBJECT MATTER, AND PARTICIPATION OF EC SUMMITS (REF A).

2. REGULARITY. OUR SOURCE RECALLED HIS EARLIER COMMENT TO EMBOFF THAT THE FRG HAS ALWAYS FAVORED MORE FREQUENT SUMMIT MEETINGS BUT WAS CONCERNED LEST THE INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF SUMMITS COULD CREATE A NEW LEVEL OF EC DECISION MAKING AT THE EXPENSE OF EXISTING FORMS OF EC COOPERATION--I.E., POLITICAL COOPERATION AND EEC ACTIVITIES UNDER THE TREATY OF ROME. DESPITE THESE CONCERNS, HOWEVER, THE GERMANS HAVE CONCLUDED ON THE BASIS OF EXPERIENCE THAT ONLY EC SUMMITS CAN OVERCOME THE STAGNATION WHICH SO OFTEN TYPIFIES COMMUNITY LIFE. CONSEQUENTLY, GIVEN THE HIGH PRIORITY WHICH THE FRG ATTACHES TO ACCELERATING THE

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EUROPEAN UNIFICATION PROCESS, THE FRG WILL AGREE TO THE SUGGESTION FOR REGULAR SUMMITS COVERING ALL AREAS OF EUROPEAN UNIFICATION. IN THIS CONNECTION, OUR SOURCES SAID THE GERMANS TENDED TO FAVOR THE PROPOSAL OF PRIME MINISTER HEATH, AT THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY CONFERENCE IN BLACKPOOL, THAT REGULAR EC SUMMITS SHOULD OCCUR TWICE YEARLY.

3. SUBJECT MATTER. OUR SOURCES SAID THE FRG DOES NOT CONCUR IN POMPIDOU'S PROPOSAL THAT THE SUMMITS FOCUS ON FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES IN THE FRAMEWORK OF POLITICAL COOPERATION. BONN BELIEVES INTERNAL ECONOMIC COHESION AND FOREIGN POLICY OF THE COMMUNITY ARE CLOSELY INTER-LINKED AND THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL TO HAVE A BALANCED EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT. IF EC SUMMITS WERE RESTRICTED TO FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES, THERE WOULD BE NO COUNTER-WEIGHT DECISION MAKING BODY ON ECONOMIC ISSUES. FURTHER, HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT HAVE OVERALL RESPONSIBILITY IN THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES AND SHOULD ADDRESS THE RANGE OF EC ISSUES AS WELL AT SUMMITS OF THE NINE.

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4. PARTICIPATION. OUR SOURCES SAID POMPIDOU HAS MADE ABSOLUTELY CLEAR THAT HE WOULD INTEND TO REPRESENT

FRANCE ALONG WITH BRANDT, HEATH AND OTHER HEADS OF GOVERNMENT AT EC SUMMITS. OUR SOURCES SAID POMPIDOU HAS LAID PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON THE NEED TO AVOID "BIG SHOWS," SUCH AS THE OCT 1972 PARIS EC SUMMIT AT WHICH SOME 250 PEOPLE WERE AROUND THE TABLE. THE FRENCH PREFER TO HAVE SMALLER INTIMATE MEETINGS.

5. THE GERMANS SHARE THE FRENCH WISH TO HAVE SMALLER MEETINGS AT THE EC SUMMIT, BUT BELIEVE RESTRICTING ATTENDANCE TO JUST THE NINE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT WOULD RENDER THE DECISION MAKING BODY LESS EFFECTIVE. BONN BELIEVES EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS
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SHOULD BE THE MAIN TEST OF ATTENDANCE AT EC SUMMITS. THEIR ALSO ARE OTHER "CONSTITUTIONAL" AND POLITICAL PROBLEMS. AS WE ARE TOLD BY THE GERMANS, IT WOULD BE CONSTITUTIONALLY DIFFICULT FOR THE PRIME MINISTERS OF THE BENELUX COUNTRIES OR DENMARK TO REPRESENT THEIR GOVERNMENTS ON STRICTLY FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES AT EC SUMMITS. ON THE POLITICAL SIDE, WITH IMPLICIT REFERENCE TO FRG, OUR SOURCE SAID IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT FOR BOTH LEADERS OF A COALITION GOVERNMENT (I.E., READ FOREIGN MINISTER SCHEEL) TO ATTEND. FINALLY, "FOR THE SAKE OF EFFICIENCY", THE GERMANS WISH TO MAKE FULL USE OF EXISTING MACHINERY SO THE PRESENCE OF EC COMMISSION PRESIDENT ORTOLI WOULD BE VERY IMPORTANT. IN THIS LATTER CONNECTION, OUR SOURCE NOTED THAT ORTOLI HAD PARTICIPATED IN THE BRIEF EC-9 FOREIGN MINISTERS' DISCUSSION OF THE MIDDLE EAST ISSUES ON NOV 6 IN BRUSSELS.

6. MODALITIES. OUR SOURCE SAID IT REMAINS UNCLEAR AT THIS TIME HOW ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE MID-DEC SUMMIT WILL BE PREPARED, BUT HE STRESSED THAT THIS EC SUMMIT WILL BE AN INFORMAL ONE AND PREPARATIONS WILL NOT REMOTELY RESEMBLE THE (THE MONTHS THAT PRECEDED THE OCT 1972 PARIS SUMMIT. OUR SOURCE EXPECTED THAT, FOLLOWING THE NOV 20 EC-9 QUARTERLY FOREIGN MINISTERS' POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS, SOME TYPE OF AD HOC GROUP WOULD DPCHARGED TO ENGAGE IN ESSENTIAL PREPARATIONS. HE EXPECTED THAT THE FIRST POINT ON THE AGENDA WOULD BE POMPIOOU'S PROPOSAL FOR REGULAR SUMMIT MEETINGS. THEREAFTER, GIVEN THE INFORMAL NATURE OF THE MEETING, CURRENTLY URGENT PROBLEMS WOULD BE DISCUSSED. A LONG LIST OF DECISIONS SHOULD NOT BE EXPECTED.
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